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Letter Regarding Restarting the Time Period for Reply Due to the Improper Loading of the Office Action (For E-Office Action Pilot Program)

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) experienced a system problem related to loading Office actions into the Image File Wrapper (IFW) system from June 5, 2009 to June 10, 2009. The notice of references cited (PTO-892) and any other Office action attachments were properly loaded, but the Office action summary (PTOL-326) and the text portion of the Office action setting forth the rejections and objections, accompanied by the coversheet (PTOL-90), were loaded into IFW at a later date. The complete Office action (the Office action summary (PTOL-326), the text portion of the Office action, the notice of references cited (PTO-892) and any other Office action attachments) was made available to applicant to retrieve through Private Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR), including one who is a participant of the Electronic Office (e-Office) Action Pilot Program on the later date. Furthermore, the e-mail notification was sent later than the notification date on the coversheet (PTOL-90) accompanying the Office action summary (PTOL-326) and the text portion of the Office action.

Accordingly, the time period for reply set forth in the Office action that has a notification date between June 5, 2009 and June 10, 2009 is hereby restarted to commence on the notification date of the instant letter ("Letter Regarding Restarting the Time Period for Reply Due to Improper Loading of the Office Action"). The notification date of the instant letter appears on the coversheet (PTOL-90) accompanying the instant letter.

Any inquiries regarding e-Office Action may be directed to the Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC) by telephone at (571) 272-4100 or toll free at (866) 217-9197, or by e-mail at ebc@uspto.gov.

We apologize for the inconvenience. Thank you for participating in the e-Office Action Pilot Program.